



United States Coast Guard

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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN (MSIB) 01-08 **February 14, 2008**

SPECIAL SECURITY MEASURES FOR MARINE INSPECTORS WORKING IN W. AFRICA

This bulletin describes additional requirements to ensure the personal security of our Marine Inspectors traveling to certain higher-risk countries between Morocco and S. Africa. They have been instructed to obtain guarantees directly from vessel managers that the below special measures have been arranged for before departing the office on travel. If, upon arrival, the additional security measures are found to be missing, inadequate or ineffective, they will be obliged to immediately return to home base in The Netherlands. The inspection will be postponed until the security measures can be fully implemented locally, or is rescheduled to occur in another country not subject to these special personal security measures. Full conformance with the special measures is a requirement to the Coast Guard's ability to safely and securely fulfill its marine safety duties in West Africa.

West African Countries Requiring Additional Security Measures	
Angola Ivory Coast Congo (DR) Liberia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two Marine Inspectors will conduct the inspection and travel together.• Lodging accommodations must be within a secure compound or approved by the U. S. Embassy.• Travel is restricted to approved safe locations, airports, hotels, compounds, port facilities and vessels unless the inspectors are accompanied by a trustworthy guide.• Travel on domestic airlines is prohibited.
Nigeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The same security measures described above apply, plus the following.• Coast Guard travel is restricted to Lagos and overnight accommodations must be on Victoria Island.• Travel to and from the international airport must take place in an armored vehicle with private security guards inside. A second vehicle with reliable communications must follow behind them. The second vehicle must escort the inspectors to their destination and be ready to assist them should the armored vehicle break down, is involved in an accident, or encounters other difficulties.• Transportation to/from Snake Island and Apapa must be by boat and originate/conclude at a safe landing on Victoria Island.• The boat must have a planing hull, two working engines and a cabin or canopy. At a minimum it must be equipped with oars and lifejackets and pass a safety inspection.• If a boat cannot be procured, then travel to and from the vessel's location may be by vehicle provided the same security measures are employed as going to and from the airport. This arrangement must be agreed upon before the Inspectors leave The Netherlands.• Inspectors traveling within Victoria Island must be escorted by private security guards. An armored vehicle and a second vehicle are not necessary.

Changes to the list of applicable countries and/or new or modified special personal security measures may become necessary upon short notice and will be communicated by this office. Any questions, please contact the Inspection Department Dispatcher. Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.


J.W. KOSTER

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
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